



News Release

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Children read books and earn free tickets to Performance Riverside/Riverside Philharmonic Family Series performance of HANSEL AND GRETEL at Landis Performing Arts Center

The Performance Riverside/Riverside Philharmonic Family Series and Riverside Public Library are teaming up once again to play fairy godmother by promoting literacy and the performing arts. Children between the ages of 4-14 who check out two fiction books from the Riverside Public Library between now and May 2 may pick up a voucher redeemable for one free general admission ticket to *Hansel and Gretel*, presented at the Landis Performing Arts Center May 3.

Parents should bring the stamped voucher to the Landis Performing Arts Center Box Office at Riverside City College or to the Riverside Municipal Auditorium Box Office, 3485 Mission Inn Avenue. Each voucher is redeemable for one general admission ticket when accompanied by an adult with a paid general admission ticket. The offer is good for up to four general admission tickets per paid adult.

In this powerful fairy tale of courage by the Grimm Brothers, Hansel and Gretel struggle for survival in an enchanted woods. Along the way, they meet a delightful forest creature and discover a magical cottage made of cake and candy. When the children are pitted against a wicked witch who inhabits this "architectural delicacy," they must use all their cleverness and bravery to prevail. *Hansel and Gretel* is performed by the California Theatre Center, twice named by the American Theatre Association as the top professional theatre in the United States for young audiences. Over the past 32 years, CTC has performed great children's literature on six continents.

"It's clear the synergy between the Riverside Philharmonic and Performance Riverside, and the participation of the Riverside Public Library and our partners at the City of Riverside have created a sum much greater than its parts," says Rey O'Day. "We thank everyone who made it possible for over 2,500 people to attend the previous three Family Series performances this season!" The season has been so successful, Rey said, that a 2009 season of Family Series Events has just been announced, including performances of Riverside Philharmonic's *Monster Talent* on January 25, 2009 and *An Afternoon of the Unexpected* on April 5, 2009 at Riverside Municipal Auditorium, and performances by the California Theatre Center of *Most Valuable Player: The Story of Jackie Robinson* on February 28, 2009 and *The Ugly Duckling* on May 16, 2009 at Landis Performing Arts Center.

Hansel and Gretel performs May 3, 2008 at 2 pm. Landis Performing Arts Center is located on the Riverside City College at 4800 Magnolia Avenue. Single tickets are \$18 for reserved seating and \$10 for general admission. Specially priced Discovery Theatre weekday morning performances are also available on May 1 and 2 for school groups. For more information call (951) 222-8100, or visit www.performanceriverside.org.



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